The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20060102004259/http://www.planemaker.com:80/

There's something special about wooden planes!

They have a tactile quality and beauty that's unmatched by other tools. To the user, they instantly telegraph all the nuances of the wood being worked in a way that metal planes have never been able to match. Their whispering sound brings a feeling of finesse and a connection to age-old craftsmanship.

We're proud to be able to offer, on a limited basis, our wooden planes. They represent a combined total of nearly 50 years of professional woodworking experience.

We've spent the last 14 years working side-by-side with a competitive spirit trying to do each job better and more efficiently than the last. This naturally brought us to depend heavily on traditional tools and we became avid students, collectors and users of old hand tools.

Our planes are inspired by the plane makers of the 18th Century.

Before the beginning of the industrial revolution and the compromises of mass production there were thousands of plane varieties and options available to the cabinetmaker or joiner. Planes could be obtained that were specifically matched to the methods and materials typically used. Our intent is to offer those same custom options in planes skillfully crafted one at a time.

We strive to use historically accurate details and our planes have been warmly received by knowledgeable wooden plane collectors at some major tool collecting events.

So much so that we were asked by several well known collectors to date our planes to avoid future confusion. Each plane is now stamped with the year in which it was made. We have a fondness for refined details of early British wooden planes but can work in Colonial and later styles.

In December of 1999 Historic Mount Vernon hosted the official bicentennial reenactment of George Washington's funeral. For the event, Walt Henderson--of Henderson & Vinci Historical Cabinetmakers and Joyners, Leesburg, VA--was selected to reproduce Washington's coffin and other funeral implements. Mr.Henderson skillfully met the challenge and used a number of Clark & Williams tools on this project. In part, he wrote on June 12, 1997 about the first plane he purchased from us:

> *"Please find enclosed...payment for the finest smoothing plane I've ever laid my hands (& eyes) on!*
>
> *"What can I say? . . .you guys have made a tool fit for the most discriminating user (and dare I say!) . . .collector of fine tools. I'm glad I wasn't able to land that Jn.Tower smoother at the Brown Auction last October; I might not have run into you guys, and that would have been my loss."*

We're confident that you, too, will be impressed with the quality and performance of Clark & Williams planes.

These tools are made with traditional techniques.

Escapements and other details are painstakingly made entirely with traditional plane making hand tools. Power tools are reserved for the rough preparation of individual plane billets. We do mill the taper of our O-1 tool steel irons by machine and then carefully heat treat and temper them in a

computer-controlled furnace.

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